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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/723,617	11/25/2003	Christopher Stewart	PD-203076	1077

20991 7590 07/24/2006

THE DIRECTV GROUP INC  
PATENT DOCKET ADMINISTRATION RE/R11/A109  
P O BOX 956  
EL SEGUNDO, CA 90245-0956

EXAMINER
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PAIK, STEVE S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2876

DATE MAILED: 07/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/723,617	STEWART, CHRISTOPHER	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Steven S. Paik	2876	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 May 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 6 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4 and 5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 3/15/05 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the Amendment filed May 17, 2006. The applicant amended claim 4.

### ***Claim Objections***

2. Claim 4 is objected to because of the following informalities: the word, "portional" in line 6 appears to be inappropriate. The examiner respectfully suggests replacing it with -- portion of -- . Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takahashi (US 5,091,618).

Re claim 4, Takahashi discloses an IC card reader (102) for usage with a smart card (7) to reduce card abrasion (Figs. 1-7 disclose a reduced contact between a card substrate of the IC card and the card reader) comprising:

an open receptacle (base plate 6 in Fig. 1), where the receptacle includes at least one open side (reference numeral 103 is an aperture for allowing to insert an IC card 7 therethrough into the main body 101 of the card reader/writer 102);

a composite receptacle lip (103) extending an entire length of a lateral side (a side of card 7a that is entirely inserted in the direction of A in Fig. 2) of the receptacle and a portion of two adjoining longitudinal sides (6a and 6b) of the receptacle to cover a portional edge of the receptacle (6) and securing the placement of the smart card in the receptacle (col. 3, line 57 - col. 4, line 42); and

a plurality of contacts (contact springs 1) residing within the receptacle (see Fig. 1) where the plurality of contacts connects to a smart chip (8) within the smart card (7) upon placement of the smart card in the receptacle (Fig. 1-3 and 5-7).

Re claim 5, Takahashi discloses the IC card reader as recited in rejected claim 4 stated above, wherein said receptacle lip (103) resiliently maintains the smart card (7) in contact with the plurality of contacts (Fig. 2 and 3; col. 4, ll. 13-42).

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 1-3 and 6 are allowable.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: none of the cited prior art of the record discloses, teaches, or fairly suggests an IC card reader for usage with a smart card to reduce card abrasion comprising, among other things, placement tabs extending from a first lateral wall, a second lateral wall, and a longitudinal wall as recited in claims 1 and 6. Claims 2 and 3 are allowable because they depend from claim 1.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

7. Applicant's arguments filed May 17, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant amended claim 4, which necessitates the examiner to reconsider the prior arts of the record. Upon careful reconsideration of the reference, the examiner believes Takahashi (US 5,091,618) teaches limitations recited in claims 4 and 5 as discussed above. Therefore, claims 4 and 5 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and claims 1-3 and 6 are allowed.

### ***Conclusion***

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven S. Paik whose telephone number is 571-272-2404. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 5:30a-2:00p (Maxi-Flex\*).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on 571-272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
Steven S. Paik  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2876

ssp